

DEMOCRATS UNITED, THANKS TO LEADERS

Martin, in Senate, and Clark and Underwood in House, Are Driving Party Coach Straight Toward White House.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Washington, D. C., June 28.—To Senator Thomas Staples Martin, of Virginia, minority leader of the upper house of Congress, belongs in large measure much of the present unity among the Democrats of that body, and, conversely, much of the disorganization and lack of harmony that prevails among the Republicans.

When, a short time ago, the Democrats, just slightly in the minority in the Senate, met in conference to select a leader—one who could make them more a factor in the Senate deliberations than had been the case before—they set about to find a man who could, in modern day parlance, "deliver the goods." They selected, as stated, Thomas S. Martin for that important duty, and whether or not his leadership is proving a success is shown better by the utter rout which prevails among the Republicans and the division which confronts them on every side, than in any other way. The Democrats, on the other hand, are more in line and in harmony concerning the measures that are pending before that body than they have been in years. This may be due to the Martin leadership or it may not, but the fact is true, and there must be, after all, some real reason for it.

There is no more interesting diversion for those who sit in the Senate galleries and watch the progress of legislation and the various events as they come up from day to day than to follow the movements of the leaders on the Democratic and Republican sides of the chamber.

It does not take a trained eye to detect the absolute lack of harmony that has taken hold of the Republicans. Little caucuses held here and there in corners of the Senate chamber, show that there is a split of no mean order among the erstwhile leaders in the upper house. They are caucusing to get together, to save reciprocity and William Howard Taft and to stamp out the political fire that La Follette has started, going much the same as a blaze sweeping the field with the oncoming wind. They see no way to pass reciprocity unless they can get their forces together, statements from Penrose and Crane and others, notwithstanding. And that is the vital question. Can they get together when there are so many in their ranks who don't want to do it? With enough insurgents acting with the Democrats to carry the day against the Republicans of the regular line, it is difficult to see how the split is to be amended. It may

and probably will be patched up for the party's good, but the axe has gone deep, and the scar can't be effaced. The opposition is too strong, especially with the Democrats working most effectively.

Summed up, the situation means that President Taft is scared out of his boots because he has good reason to fear that reciprocity will not pass. Its failure means his repudiation, not that his party would forsake him ordinarily, but the failure of the measure will mean the failure of the man. He can never receive another nomination. Meanwhile the Democrats—working in thorough harmony in both houses, with Underwood and Clark and Martin in charge—are driving their teams directly toward the White House. The party never made better progress than it is making now, thanks to the excellent leadership in both the House and the Senate. The party can win with Wilson, Clark or Harmon, with votes to spare if the same splendid party harmony prevails for the next twelve months. Underwood and Clark are effecting the great victory in the House and Martin will do it in the Senate.

P. H. MCG

HIGHER CHARGES ARE PERMITTED

Petition of Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Is Granted by Commission.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Washington, D. C., June 28.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today granted the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway permission to charge a higher rate of fare for through passenger traffic than the aggregate of the intermediate fares between points to and from Washington.

The present rate of fare for through traffic to all points to and from Washington will remain in force until the commission renders a decision in the case of the Washington-Southern and the Southern Railway cases, having to do with the rate charged from Orange to Washington and Alexandria to Washington.

In its petition asking permission to charge the higher rate for through traffic, in violation of section 4 of the interstate commerce law, the railroad sets forth that its fares between Charlottesville and Washington and Alexandria and Washington are covered by agreements with the Southern Railway and the Washington-Southern Railway respectively. The Chesapeake and Ohio uses the tracks of these two roads between Washington and Orange, and has binding agreements to respect their fares.

W. S. Bronson, assistant general passenger agent of the Chesapeake and Ohio, said last night, upon his return from Washington, that the proceeding referred to above merely make a temporary change in the rates from a few stations on the road to Washington. To be exact, it allows the charging of 5 cents now saved by some passengers on the Alexandria situation. The order is temporary, in force only pending a decision of the Washington-Southern petition on July 29, which is designed to reach the meat of the situation at Alexandria, and was made at this time to comply with the law limiting the time for the correction of passenger rates.

WRIT IS DENIED TO BANKER MORSE

Atlanta, Ga., June 28.—Charles W. Morse today was denied a writ of habeas corpus for which he applied to Federal Judge Newman to obtain his release from the Atlanta prison, where he is serving a fifteen-year sentence for the violation of the banking laws. Judge Newman did not pass upon the contention that Morse could not be forced legally to serve more than ten years of his sentence, but he sustained the validity of ten years of the sentence. He rejected Morse's plea that the Atlanta prison could not be used for the confinement of those sentenced to imprisonment without hard labor.

"I do not think that any relier can be granted under this petition at this time," said Judge Newman. "The question is whether the petition presents anything which would require that something be done now for the petitioner. I think this sentence is unquestionably good for ten years. Whether it is good for fifteen years cannot be passed on at this time. I would unquestionably have no right now to interfere with the sentence, even if it is for ten years. I do not believe that Morse's status as a prisoner can be determined upon a writ of habeas corpus, which, as presented in this case, is an anticipatory petition. The writ of habeas corpus is to determine whether or not the prisoner shall be discharged or remanded."

"I do not see how upon such a petition the question of hard labor can be determined. If, however, I were to give a judgment upon this question, I would say that the Atlanta petitioner can be used for those sentenced to imprisonment without hard labor. If it were otherwise, the most I could do would be to decide that the Attorney General, or other proper authorities be requested to transfer Morse to some other institution. I do not think this would be more desirable than the present place of imprisonment. Indeed, I would think it would be unfortunate if the prisoners were not compelled to do some kind of work. I am satisfied that no relief can be granted at this time under this petition, and I shall be compelled to deny it."

Morse contended that the court should fix his status as being a prisoner under a ten-year sentence or under a fifteen-year sentence in order that the question as to how much the sentence should be reduced by good behavior or when a parole might be applied for could be known by Morse in advance.

R. R. Arnold, representing Morse, gave notice that the case would be carried to the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

THEIR DISMISSAL IS RECOMMENDED

Michael and Morrison Will Be Ousted From Government Service.

RESULT OF DAY PICTURE CASE

Subcommittee Believes Funds of State Department Were Misappropriated.

Washington, D. C., June 28.—Expressing the belief that there was a misappropriation of State Department funds, and recommending as a result thereof the dismissal from the service of William H. Michael, American consul-general at Calcutta, former chief clerk of the State Department, and of Thomas Morrison, disbursing clerk of the department, the subcommittee of the House Committee on Expenditures in the State Department today met and adopted the report which to-morrow it will present to the full committee.

The alleged misappropriation occurred in connection with the purchase of a portrait of Associate Justice Day, former Secretary of State, and amounted to \$1,600. Only \$550 was paid to Albert Rosenthal, the artist, whereas the committee during its investigations traced to a single voucher the sum of \$2,450, on which voucher were written the words: "For portrait and frame of Ex-Secretary Day."

Neither the President nor the Secretary of State, according to the report, has the right to pay for portraits of former Secretaries of State from the emergency fund, from which came the money to pay for the portrait in question. The testimony having shown that the \$1,600 unaccounted for was in the hands of Morrison, as disbursing clerk, and of Michael, as chief clerk, the committee holds that the money was misappropriated either by Michael and Morrison, jointly, or by Michael alone.

The mysterious finding of the voucher for \$2,450, which was reported lost when the committee began its investigations, but later was discovered by a messenger on the floor in the disbursing clerk's office, is criticized by the committee in its report as beyond human belief.

Both Morrison and Michael should be removed from office, in the opinion of the committee, for the good of the public service.

The subcommittee consists of Representative Hamilton, of Missouri, chairman of the committee; Linn, of Alabama, and Davis, of Minnesota, a Republican. As all three are in favor of the report, as only one other vote is needed to have it adopted by the full committee, it is felt that no doubt exists as to the outcome. In case the President and Secretary of State take no action in the case, it was pointed out today by a member of the committee, a resolution would be introduced calling on them to dismiss the two men.

FEVER EPIDEMICS BEING REPORTED

Health Department Experts Sent at Once to Different Localities.

Within the last few days the State Health Department has received notice of several small outbreaks of typhoid fever, and has sent its experts to the localities where the disease appeared in order to prevent, if possible, any general spread of the malady. In every instance where much typhoid fever has been reported the epidemiologists of the department have been sent without delay and have co-operated with the local health authorities.

Health Commissioner Williams yesterday stated that none of the epidemics thus far reported was of serious nature, and consequently he made no public announcement of the whereabouts of the disease. The usual number of cases, he said, had been reported from all quarters of the State, with the prospect that the present year would be an average one in the number of cases of fever.

"Thanks to the press of the State," said Dr. Williams, "the public is fully advised of the fact that the department will investigate all extensive outbreaks of fever, and the latter are being reported. If the local authorities will keep in mind that the prevention of epidemics is the object of the department, and hence of early report, the problem will be much simplified. Often a delay of a day may mean the infection of a dozen persons and the establishment of many new foci of disease."

PLAGUE OF FLIES

Virginia City Reports Millions of Insects and No Relief in Sight.

From a Virginia city comes a dismal report of conditions which remind the people of the plague of Egypt. Millions of flies, untold millions, have descended on the city, and are making miserable the life of the citizens.

The State Health Department, to which an appeal for assistance has been made, prefers not to give the name of the suffering city but its experts are on the way to the epidemic, as disclosed by health officers, as a warning to other communities. A great deal of decaying vegetable refuse has been allowed to accumulate around the city, unremoved and uncovered, as a result of unusual conditions. The flies laid their eggs in this material with the result that millions of flies have hatched out.

The health authorities are almost impotent in the circumstances and can do little to relieve the situation, except to suggest methods by which the flies may be killed. These have met with no success. It is reported here that two men, working together, killed a bushel full of flies in half an hour's work. The health authorities have pointed out that the best way to stop the nuisance is to prevent the breeding of flies. This can only be done by removing animal and vegetable refuse before the flies have time to hatch. In the city in question elaborate precautions have been taken, and it is hoped that the next few weeks can breed there during the next few weeks.

Order Elects Officers.

B. E. Thacker, elected councillor of Jefferson Council, No. 57, Junior Order United American Mechanics, at the annual meeting held last night. Other officers chosen were as follows: A. L. Cooper, vice-councillor; George C. Morton, recording secretary; A. O. Boschen, assistant recording secretary; J. W. Miller, financial secretary; Peter Krug, treasurer; A. G. Roeder, conductor; Henry Moltz, warden; W. E. Jennings, inside sentinel; T. J. Mallory, outside sentinel; Henry Moltz, trustee; J. A. Mallory, representative to State Council, and E. P. Mitchell, alternate.

Bowles Qualifies.

It was announced yesterday at the office of the Adjutant-General that Drewry W. Bowles, Jr., had successfully passed the required examination for a commission as first lieutenant and quartermaster of the Richmond Light Infantry Blues Battalion. His commission will be signed by the Governor in a few days.

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